Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 AF-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /120 W

O 142111Z JUN 77 ZFF1
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO USMISSION GENEVA NIACT IMMEDIATE
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0955

-----142335Z 069509 /63

CONFIDENTIAL BUENOS AIRES 4443

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PLAB, ILO

SUBJECT: ILO - 63RD CONFERENCE - ARGENTINA AND THE SPECIAL LIST

REF: (A) GENEVA 4716, (B) STATE 136940

PROPOSED USDEL VOTE IN FAVOR OF PLACING ARGENTINA ON ILO'S SPECIAL LIST COMES DURING SAME WEEK THAT U.S. WILL ABSTAIN ON IMPORTANT WORLD BANK CREDIT TO ARGENTINA. IT IS LIKELY THAT BOTH DECISIONS, TAKEN TOGETHER, WILL BE MISCONSTRUED BY GOA AUTHORITIES AND PRESS AS START OF NEW OFFENSIVE BY CARTER ADMINISTRATION AGAINST ARGENTINA IN HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. AS IN THE CASE OF THE FMS CREDIT REDUCTION, ARGENTINE ANGER WILL BE INCREASED BY OUR SEEMING TO HAVE PLACED ARGENTINA AGAIN IN SAME BOAT AS ETHIOPIA. EMBASSY WILL ALSO BE HARD PUT TO EXPLAIN HOW PROPOSED USDEL VOTE SOUARES WITH RECENT HOROWITZ MISSION TO ARGENTINA IN WHICH WE PLACED PREMIUM ON DEPOLITICIZING ILO PROCEDURES AND IN ASSURING ARGENTINES THAT, IN OUR VIEW, COUNTRIES ACCUSED OF VIOLATING TRADE UNION LIBERTIES SHOULD BE AFFORDED DUE PROCESS TO FULL EXTENT PERMITTED UNDER ILO CHARTER BEFORE BEING SUBJECT TO CONDEMNATORY ACTIONS. PROBLEM HEIGHTENED CONFIDENTIAL.

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BY FACT THAT COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN ILO AND GOA THUS FAR ON TRADE UNION LIBERTY VIOLATIONS HAVE BEEN HELD IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE AND ARE NOT IN PUBLIC DOMAIN. IN ORDER TO BE BETTER ABLE TO DEFEND U.S. VOTE IN ILO AND PLACE IT IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE, EMBASSY NEEDS TO KNOW SOONEST:

(A) PRECISE SIGNIFICANCE OF ARGENTINA'S BEING PLACED ON

SPECIAL LIST.

- (B) NEXT STEP(S) IN PROCESS AND WHAT ARGENTINA HAS TO DO TO GET ITSELF REMOVED FROM LIST.
- (C) FACTORS WHICH LED TO U.S. DECISION.
- (D) REASONS WHICH MAKE ARGENTINE SITUATION, IN U.S. VIEW, COMPARABLE TO THAT OF ETHIOPIA AND UNLIKE THAT OF ISRAEL. CHAPLIN

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Message Attributes

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